GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:392
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2005
TRADE WITH AUSTRALIA
Majhi Shri Parsuram

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has a proposal to establish long-term economic cooperation with Australia;

(b) if so, the areas identified therefor; and

(c) the details of talks held between both the countries thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN)

(a) to (c): There already exists a Trade Agreement between India and Australia, which was signed in August 1976 in Canberra. Under this Agreement, a Joint Trade Committee was set up for review of bilateral trade and economic relations, which later merged into Joint Ministerial Commission (JMC) in 1989. So far, nine meetings of the India Australia JMC have been held. Its 9th meeting was held on 18-19th May 2005 in Sydney, Australia. The identified areas of bilateral cooperation include, inter alia, education, telecommunication, tourism, information technology, sports, agriculture and textiles.